

Rhiannon Mayne

Oscar and Juanita Monnig Endowed Chair of Meteoritics and Planetary Science at Texas Christian University

Fort Worth, TX, US

Museum curator and researcher specializing in the study of meteorites and planetary science, as well as education and public outreach.

Biography

I am the Curator of the Oscar E. Monnig Meteorite Collection. This is one of the world's largest university-based meteorite collections, which also includes a world-class museum, the Monnig Meteorite Gallery. Its presence at TCU offers both my undergraduate and graduate students unique opportunities in research, curation, and public outreach. I have been a Research Associate at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) for much of time here at TCU. In 2010, I was a member of the Antarctic Search for Meteorites field team, spending 2 months in Antarctica collecting meteorites whilst trying to stay warm. My research explores the processes that occurred during the early history of our Solar System, with a primary focus on understanding the formation of differentiated bodies (those with a core, mantle, crust structure). My students and I primarily study the mineralogy, geochemistry, and spectra of asteroidal meteorites to gather information about planetary formation and Solar System evolution

Areas of Expertise

Planets, Meteors, Astroids

Education

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

PhD Geology

Edinburgh University

BSc Geology

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